

The West Virginian

"THE PAPER THAT GOES HOME."

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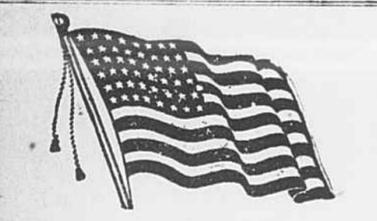
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MONDAY EVENING, OCTOBER 1, 1917.



BETTER SUNDAY SCHOOLS.

In the early days of this country there was regular family worship in every home occupied by the God fearing and attendance at church was enforced by public opinion. But in these times, when the churches have to compete with auto touring on bright Sundays and many other interests on other Sundays, the Sunday school has become quite the most important recruiting ground for the congregations. And for a preponderant majority of the young people it is the only place where they gain any religious education whatsoever.

Anything, therefore, which has a tendency to increase the influence of the Sunday schools in the community is a matter of considerable public importance. The future of any town will always be safe when most of the children are enrolled in the Sunday schools and attend regularly enough to imbibe the spirit of the instruction which they receive there.

But just as with the secular schools, and with every phase of educational work, there are good and bad, alert and indifferent, efficient and inefficient, Sunday schools, and if the meeting held at the Y. M. C. A. Friday evening means anything at all it means that the Sunday schools of Fairmont are going to be in the better class every way they are considered.

It is to be hoped that the men who have inaugurated the movement will have the hearty cooperation of all who have been interested in the Sunday schools in the past, and that they will be able to enlist the assistance of many who have not been doing all they could along this line. There is a labor of disinterested good citizenship. Fairmont's Sunday schools are doing excellent work. No one would be open to criticism if they were permitted to drift along just as they have been for some time. But unquestionably the interruptions due to the poliomyelitis quarantines last winter and this summer have disorganized them to a certain extent and this is an excellent time to institute sweeping reforms and to bring the practice right in line with the most advanced Sunday schools of the country. It is a splendid testimonial to their alertness and interest in the cause that the discovery that this is so was first made by the people who have been most active in the Sunday schools in the past. There is nothing fossilized about the mentality of these men, and if they are given the support they deserve they will soon make Fairmont's Sunday schools famous throughout the state.

THOROUGHLY AWAKE.

THERE may be folks who still believe America is not awake to the war, but if there are any such they are doing some sleeping themselves. People simply can not ignore the war any more. It is filling up the publications of this country—all of them—in the same way it has filled the columns of British publications for the past two or three years. One must quit reading current matters to avoid it. Even the distinctively class publications are forced to devote a large part of their space to it. For instance, two of the most interesting war articles we remember to have seen in a long time are in last week's issue of the Railway Age Gazette. They tell about the work of the American railway regiment now operating military railroads behind the West front and of the movement of the men called to the National army. Fine reading they make, and they are quite as good as articles the same publication printed some months ago about the war work of the Italian railroads, which articles, by the way, it is to be hoped operating officers of American roads read.

When the war broke out editors of the popular magazines and the Sunday editors of newspapers fell upon it in the same way that the German General Staff expected to be able to fall upon Paris. That fall in preparing announcements for 1915 the editors of one of America's most important magazines announced that there would be at least one publication in this country which would not have any war articles during that year. We do not remember whether they stuck it out for the whole year, but it is a fact that in the current issue of that publication among other matter which has a strong military flavor is an able article explaining how the United States could raise an army even

faster than it is raising one if it were to adopt the Portuguese system—which doubtless was news to a lot of its readers.

And so it runs all the way through. The all fiction publications are as military as the army register and every one knows what it has done to the movies, the vaudeville and the legitimate stage. We may not be getting excited about the war, but we know it is going on and we seem to have a pretty accurate idea of what it involves, both from the moral and military standpoints.

GOV. CORNWELL'S CIVIL ARMY.

GOVERNOR CORNWELL'S project to organize in West Virginia what he calls a civil army, so that the folks at home may the more effectively do their part in supporting the armies with the colors and bearing their share of the national burdens, is such a good one that it should have the hearty support of every patriotic man and woman in the state.

At a time like the present nothing worth while can be done by the public without organization—genuine shoulder-to-shoulder organization. And there is so much to do right here in West Virginia. In his letter to the local draft boards, to the members of which he wrote about the idea he had in mind, the Governor mentioned a few of the things that must be done when he said:

This civil army must be mobilized to secure effective and concerted action. The army that remains at home must make it easier for the boys who go to the front. It must be trained to stop the mouth of sedition; to force, if necessary, a small sacrifice for those who have shown their willingness to make the supreme sacrifice, and to try to assuage the grief of those who have given their flesh and blood in defense of liberty at the country's call.

There will be other things which will come up from time to time. But the big idea right now is to get the civil army going. Every man and every woman who is asked to help should do so unhesitatingly, even though to do so involves some personal inconvenience or involves some personal sacrifice. West Virginia has a reputation to sustain in this supporting the Republic business, and Governor Cornwell has hit upon the way to do it.

Retail coal prices having been fixed at approximately the figures that prevailed during 1915, now comes the struggle to enforce them. It is not going to be easy, and one of the most difficult factors, if the transportation element gets any worse, will be to prevent the consumer from bidding them up by covert bribes for favored treatment.

More than the usual interest is felt in the movements that are believed to be going on behind the screen which the censors with General Haig's army have set up. It is apparent that the Germans are going to make desperate efforts to hold onto Belgium so that they will have something to trade with when the time for negotiations arrives, and there remains only about one month suitable for the effort to thrust them out this year. If the British succeed in that time in making the German hold on the little country untenable it will be a fine revenge for the Kaiser's early scorn of the "contemptible little army."

The second Liberty loan campaign opened today. This campaign will end Saturday, October 27, so people who want these bonds, which will draw four per cent interest, will have to make up their minds about it comparatively soon.

Both the French and the Italians started new and important offensives Saturday and yesterday, and with what is going on in Flanders this promises to make the first week in October a rather lively one for the Central powers. If this country had as large an army in Europe this fall as we will have by next spring the boys surely would be out of the trenches by Christmas.

Secret Service agents go right on arresting I. W. W. leaders. The government may not be able to convict all these trouble makers, but it at least will put them where they can do no great amount of harm for the time being, and its activity will have a tendency to keep others, who might be inclined to take steps that would obstruct the conduct of the war, behave.

The executive committee of the American Defense society has written to the governors of the states urging that steps be taken to get rid of seven United States Senators, who are named, because they have been giving aid and comfort to Germany. That is a very good way to insure that no Senators will be got rid of. In the long run it is just as bad for a good cause to be radical on the right side as on the wrong side.

SHORT AND SNAPPY

The railroads should be careful how they run trains on the plains. Nothing so unexpected utterly disarranges the plans of the general public.—St. Albans Herald.

The enormous holes in the sun called "spots," which astronomers are noting, are probably those places in the sun which are being prepared for the Kaiser and his cohorts.—Charleston Daily Mail.

Another American battleship having gone aground, shows what a great mistake was made when the ocean was built so close to the shore.—Wheeling Register.

Silo filling, cutting corn and Sunday automobile trips seems to be much in vogue in these days.—Weston Independent.

September Circulation

The circulation of The West Virginian for the month of September, 1917, was as follows:

1	5,005	16	Sunday
2	Sunday	17	4,918
4	4,982	18	4,896
3	4,976	19	4,880
5	5,025	20	4,928
6	4,943	21	4,901
7	4,912	22	5,044
8	5,009	23	Sunday
9	Sunday	24	4,928
10	4,910	25	4,916
11	4,959	26	4,935
12	4,912	27	4,928
13	4,950	28	4,976
14	4,921	29	5,121
15	4,915	30	Sunday

Total for 25 days 123,790
 Daily Average for September 4,951
 Daily Average for August 4,939
 Practically all of this circulation went into Fairmont and Marion County homes, the natural field for the Fairmont market.

OUTBURSTS OF EVERETT TRUE

(BY CONDO)



I AM CALLING ON THE HEADS OF SEVERAL BUSINESS FIRMS IN THIS TOWN WHO PERSIST IN SENDING OUT CARRIERS TO STUFF CIRCULARS AND HANDBILLS INTO MAIL BOXES! I DON'T CARE HOW MUCH MONEY YOU THROW AWAY ON THAT KIND OF ADVERTISING AS LONG AS YOU KEEP IT OUT OF MY WAY!!!

RUFF STUFF

They say tragedies run in series of three.

We're not going to take any chance, so we will stay away from the Point.

Tony rate we'll insist on riding on the front seat.

Inside dope is that a leak in the sheriff's office was at the bottom of Saturday night's affair.

Not the first time either that bootleggers were able to find out what the sheriff had up his sleeve.

About time that stuff was stopped.

There's potential tragedy in every tip off.

The fact that Christmas is just around the corner will help that proposed Sunday school reorganization as far as the small boy is concerned.

Saw a lot of overcoats and one straw hat on the streets yesterday.

Evidently the country is not unanimous yet on the value of preparedness.

The reports of the Lilley death are a fine ad for the Home Guard.

But that's not the worst of the Home Guard's activities in defiance of the law is ought to be protecting.

One Main street merchant broke all business records Saturday.

Sure he advertises.

You can almost tell whether a store is being advertised by taking a look through the front door Saturday evenings.

If the store is empty, it doesn't advertise.

Editorial Comment on Current Subjects

"ENEMY MUSIC." From the New York World.

"In deference to sentiments of the American public," the Chicago Opera Company will produce no German opera this season.

Is American sentiment opposed in fact to German opera? At least the Metropolitan Opera Company is not disposed to hold Wagner responsible for ruthless submarine warfare and har his works on that ground. But if musical sentiment in this country is opposed to German opera, by the same token it must be opposed to German symphony compositions. If Wagner is enemy music, why are not Bach and Beethoven also? If any German music is to be boycotted by American conductors because it was "created in the enemy country," it was "created in all

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RED CROSS TO HELP FRENCH BABIES LIVE

Infant Mortality in Sister Republic Very High Since War Began.

The American Red Cross announces that Dr. Charles Ulysses Moore, of Portland, Ore., has been sent to France to reinforce that Infant Welfare Unit now at work there under the direction of Dr. William P. Lucas of the University of California.

With Dr. Moore, who is one of the leading pediatric specialists of the Pacific Coast, go a group of sixteen nurses who have had special training in children's diseases and social welfare work.

These reinforcements are sent in response to a cabled request from Major Grayson M. P. Murphy, head of the Red Cross Commission to France, under whose direction Dr. Lucas is working. The Red Cross will endeavor to decrease the present high death rate among children under two years of age which, with the falling birthrate, threatens rapidly to depopulate the country.

While the plans of the unit are not yet fully developed it is expected that doctors and nurses will be assigned to service at all the points of greatest need in France. They are to be stationed in groups of two or more at leading hospitals from which house work and educational campaigns can be conducted, both in the cities and through the country districts. A third detachment of doctors will sail before the end of the month.

The Red Cross has already established a children's refuge near Toul where 750 boys and girls, from nearby villages which have been under bombardment, are now being kept safe from gas attacks under expert medical care in cooperation with the French government. In Belgium the Red Cross, together with the Rockefeller Foundation, is preparing to care for between five and six thousand children.

To the American Red Cross Hospital established by Dr. Joseph A. Blake in Paris, two doctors from New England are being sent, at Dr. Blake's special request. They are Dr. J. B. McCook, of Hartford, Conn., and Dr. W. Irving Clark, of Worcester, Mass. Dr. Blake's hospital has made an especially notable record in its treatment of fracture. Several novel methods are in use, including the "Blake Extension," by means of which the broken member is suspended in a cradle above the patient's bed.

HURT ON FRENCH LINE. CLARKSBURG, Oct. 1.—Word has been received here that Paul W. Sage, a Clarksburg boy has been wounded on the French battle front. He is a corporal with Canadian troops. This is the second time he has been wounded while on duty, the first being last February. Mr. Sage is a nephew of William A. Harrington of this city and of Maj. Gen. W. H. Sage, in command of Camp Selby, Hattiesburg, Miss.

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Looking Ahead

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